

Rockford

Decr 10 '84

My dear Mr. Watson

Bentham says of
Salix reticulata "Catkins on
rather long, leafless peduncles
at the ends of short branches
opposite to the last leaf" This
is very expressive - particularly in
the case of our *S. reticulata* which
is like this



But I observe that Anderson
regards the whole branch as a
leafy peduncle and Hooker
following him says "catkins on
very long leafy peduncles"

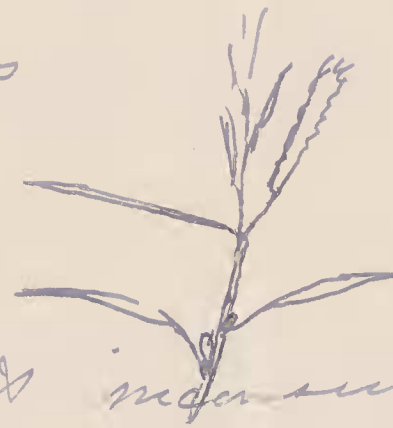
I suppose that, strictly speaking

the peduncle of *S. lucida* for
instance is just as much a
branch as in the present
instance - still would you
would you not for the sake
of clearness of statement
advice - *Pantheus* language -

I notice that in your Bot
40th Parallel p 327 in translating
Andersson you say "peduncle
leafy" while a few lines
further on you have in your
own remarks "aments on long
naked peduncles" thus unconsciously
adopting a common sense
view of the matter -

If we regard the flowers
of *S. nigra* for instance as being
borne on short lateral leafy
branches - and this view we

can not escape for often
the growth is continued from
the uppermost bud even of the
♂ aments thus



I see no great inconsistency
in calling, only so much - in the
case of vegetative - as appears above
the last leaf, peduncle and let
the leafy portion go as a
lateral branch -

Please let me have
the benefit of your opinion
yours very truly
G. M. L. Lath

1891

1896